

Claims

[c1] A method of communicating business information using a network-based system including at least one server coupled to a database and at least one device, said method comprising:
creating a plurality of dashboards;
storing the dashboards in the database;
populating the dashboards using information from the database; and
providing the dashboards to a user through the device.

[c2] A method according to Claim 1 wherein providing the dashboards comprises providing the same dashboard to a plurality of users, simultaneously.

[c3] A method according to Claim 1 wherein populating the dashboards comprises populating the dashboard with updated information from the database.

[c4] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards further comprises selecting filtering parameters.

[c5] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards further comprises selecting at least one dial for the dashboard.

[c6] A method according to Claim 5 wherein selecting at least one dial comprises selecting a dial that displays one of a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only – Exclude Items report, a Number of Days to 1st Shipment – Stock Items report, a Number of Shipments Per Order – Stock Items report, a % Lines Complete in 10 Days – Stock Items report, an Average Days To Complete Order – Stock Items report, a RGA As % Of Sales report, a Transactional Quality As % Of Sales report, an Order Placement Profile & Order Entry Productivity report, a Requests Met – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Requests Met – Stock Only Items report, a Requests Met – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Promises Kept – Stock

Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Product Quality – Percentage report, a Product Quality – DPMO report, a Product Quality – Total RMAs report, a Product Quality – Total RMA Item Quantity report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Line Items Shipped report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Orders report, a Product Quality – RMAs vs. Total Line Item Quantity report, and a Sales YTM Trend report.

[c7] A method according to Claim 5 wherein selecting at least one dial comprises selecting a dial owner.

[c8] A method according to Claim 5 wherein selecting at least one dial comprises selecting a upper spec limit and a lower spec limit for the dial.

[c9] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards comprises selecting a time span for the information used to generate the dashboard.

[c10] A method according to Claim 1 wherein creating a plurality of dashboards comprises granting viewing privileges for at least one user.

[c11] A system for communicating business information, said system comprising:
at least one device;
at least one server configured to receive business information, store the business information and provide the business information;
a network connecting said at least one server to said at least one device; said server configured to generate at least one dashboard using the business information, the dashboard available through said network for display on said device.

[c12] The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one dashboard is stored on said at least one server.

[c13] The system of Claim 11 wherein the dashboard comprises at least one dial.

[c14] The system of Claim 13 wherein each dial comprises a display of one of at least one of a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A

Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only – Exclude Items report, a Number of Days to 1st Shipment – Stock Items report, a Number of Shipments Per Order – Stock Items report, a % Lines Complete in 10 Days – Stock Items report, an Average Days To Complete Order – Stock Items report, a RGA As % Of Sales report, a Transactional Quality As % Of Sales report, an Order Placement Profile & Order Entry Productivity report, a Requests Met – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Requests Met – Stock Only Items report, a Requests Met – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Promises Kept – Stock Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Product Quality – Percentage report, a Product Quality – DPMO report, a Product Quality – Total RMAs report, a Product Quality – Total RMA Item Quantity report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Line Items Shipped report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Orders report, a Product Quality – RMAs vs. Total Line Item Quantity report, and a Sales YTM Trend report.

[c15] The system of Claim 13 wherein the dial comprises a graphic display of business information.

[c16] The system of Claim 13 wherein the dial comprises a drilldown data display of business information.

[c17] The system of Claim 11 wherein said at least one server regenerates said dashboards on at least one of a predetermined schedule and on command.

[c18] The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one dashboard is selectively available through said network, said network is at least one of the Internet, an intranet, a wide area network and a local area network.

[c19] The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one dashboard includes business information within a specific time span.

[c20] The system of Claim 11 wherein said at least one dashboard provides business information based on selectable parameters.

[c21] A system for communicating business information, said system comprising:
at least one device;
at least one server configured to receive business information, store the business

information and provide the business information; a network connecting said at least one server to said at least one device; and at least one dashboard comprising at least one dial comprising a graphic display of the business information and a drilldown data display, said dashboard generated by said server using the business information; said dashboard stored on said server after generation, said dashboard selectively available through said network for display on said device.

[c22] A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for managing business information, said program comprising a code segment that receives business information and then:
maintains a database by adding, deleting and updating business information; generates at least one dashboard based on the received business information; and provides consistent dashboards to users.

[c23] The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further comprising a code segment that provides at least one of an option to filter business information based on at least one of a Customer Names pull-down list, a Customer Name-numbers pull-down list, a Region Name-Number pull-down list, a Business Team Code – Product Segment – Product Segment Code pull-down list, a Plant Name-Code pull-down list, and a Product Family-Code pull-down list.

[c24] The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further includes a code segment that generates a display of at least one of a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock) – A Items Only – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Standard report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – Exclude Single Line Items report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only report, a 1st Shipment Fill Rate (Stock Unit Ship) – A Items Only – Exclude Items report, a Number of Days to 1st Shipment – Stock Items report, a Number of Shipments Per Order – Stock Items report, a % Lines Complete in 10 Days – Stock Items report, an Average Days To Complete Order – Stock Items report, a RGA As % Of Sales report, a Transactional Quality As % Of Sales report, an Order Placement Profile & Order Entry Productivity report, a Requests Met – Stock & Drop Ship

Items report, a Requests Met – Stock Only Items report, a Requests Met – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Stock & Drop Ship Items report, a Promises Kept – Stock Items Only report, a Promises Kept – Drop Ship Items Only report, a Product Quality – Percentage report, a Product Quality – DPMO report, a Product Quality – Total RMAs report, a Product Quality – Total RMA Item Quantity report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Line Items Shipped report, a Product Quality – RMAs Issued vs. Orders report, a Product Quality – RMAs vs. Total Line Item Quantity report, and a Sales YTM Trend report.

[c25] The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further comprising a code segment that displays each dashboard in a standardized format.

[c26] The computer program as recited in Claim 22 further comprising:
a code segment that accesses the database;
a code segment that searches the database regarding the specific inquiry;
a code segment that retrieves information from the database; and
a code segment that causes the retrieved information to be displayed on the client system.

[c27] The computer program as recited in Claim 22 and further comprising a code segment that monitors the security of the system by restricting access to authorized individuals.